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Los Angeles County Fire Memorial

Saturday, September 12, 2009, at Dodger Stadium, Captain Jay played “Taps” for the memorial service for the two Los Angeles County Firefighters who perished at the Station Fire. Captain Jay has participated locally and nationally representing our Fire Department. Fire Chief Earley stated, “Even though Captain Jay does not participate for personal recognition, I would like to commend him for representing the Riverside City Fire Department in such a professional and honorable manner.” RFD also sent one brush engine with crew to the service.



Moo Meets Moore at City Hall

The Chick-Fill-A Cow paid a visit to City Hall and posed with Keith from Fire Prevention and Sandra from Human Resources



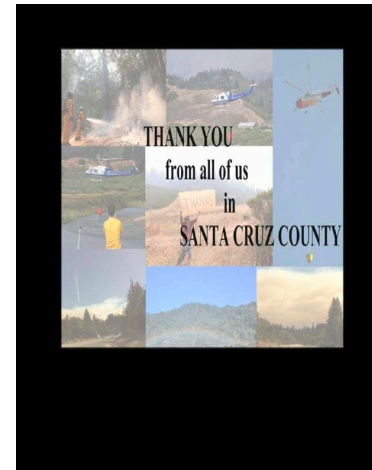
Email from Deputy Chief Pentz to all RFD Personnel on 9/8/09:

Please review these letters thanking everyone for their part in saving homes on the Lockheed Fire.

Letters and notes like these that make us all proud to be in the profession of helping people, you do make a difference.

Thanks again for all you do.

(There were 10 pages of thank you messages)



Email from Tyler Stanford on 9/2/09:

RFD Personnel,

I would like to inform everyone that I have returned to work as the EMD Coordinator/Fire Communication Liaison. I have actually been back for approximately 2 weeks. Please send any dispatch, response order, CMA, EMD, CAD, etc related questions or concerns to me.

The new knee feels great. It is really nice to be able to "the little things" again. I have been riding my bike every morning before work and lifting weights in the evening. The strength in that leg is really starting to come back; I am actually able to "load 45 pound" plates onto the leg press. I have established a "gauntlet" at my house and I have started that type of training. There is no real physical limitation but there is a mental component that I still must overcome. I have noticed that the "gauntlet" is a big help in overcoming the mental limitations. It forces me to move in unconventional ways and build my stamina back up.

Probationaries, I hope you are all working out and don't ever forget just how great this job is.

Letter sent to Eric Botkin and family on 9/18/09:

Karen McCoy mailed a letter to the Botkin Family notifying them that the California Fire Chiefs Association, Administrative Fire Services Section (AFSS) – Southern Division, had selected Eric and his family as this quarter's recipient of a \$100 charitable contribution. At the group's meeting, Karen shared Eric's story and also his new website, www.helpericbotkin.com. The attendees were inspired by the strength and faith that Eric and his family have demonstrated.



(cont)



Email from Mark LaMont, Idyllwild Fire Department on 9/3/09:

Chief Earley,

I have had the pleasure of working with your department recently on a few strike team assignments. Most recently we worked on the Freeway, Lockheed and Station Fires along with your management and engine crews. As I am certain that you have great pride in knowing that your people are the very best at what they do, it is difficult to find the right way to further express this fact to you. With that, I will simply say that your people believe strongly in the quote displayed at your training facility, "Go Hard, or Go Home." I have had the pleasure of working alongside many of your staff led by: Battalion Chief Mike Koury, Division Chief John Martinez, Captain Bill DeLaHoya, and Captain Jeff Delaurie and will tell you that they are each the definition of professionalism. As you also know we experienced some engine trouble on the way home from the Station Fire. We then had the great pleasure of meeting Deputy Chief Oran Pentz and Fire Mechanic Joe who helped to get us back on the road and home safely. Their efforts and hospitality were greatly appreciated. Please thank all of them for their hard work and dedication to setting the bar.

Email from Linda Daugherty on 9/8/09:

Hello to All,

There are no words to thank you for the help with the hours as I used all of mine and needed a few more in order to get to the date that the doctor would release me. I truly appreciate you. Obviously, you've always been there for me throughout the years that I have been here. You would not have to go far away from work to find that I've been your biggest fan and no one is to tell me any different, as I get in the defense mode.

I received cards, calls, and flowers during my time off and I want you to know that I appreciated all of them so much. When you're just sitting there vegetating trying to heal, watching the TV Show Emergency (Engine 51 and Squad 51) and then the movie "Ladder 49" and all you can do is cry your eyes out, it's time to come back to the real world. J I can cry there too!!!!!!

I want all of you to know that I appreciate you and I also worry about you (it's my job to worry) when you're out doing your job because I really do Love and Care for All of You. I think the Fire Department has the cream of the crop, as far as people are concerned. I truly do. It makes me feel so proud to see you out in public and to be able to say that I'm a part of your Fire Family. Thank you so much!!!

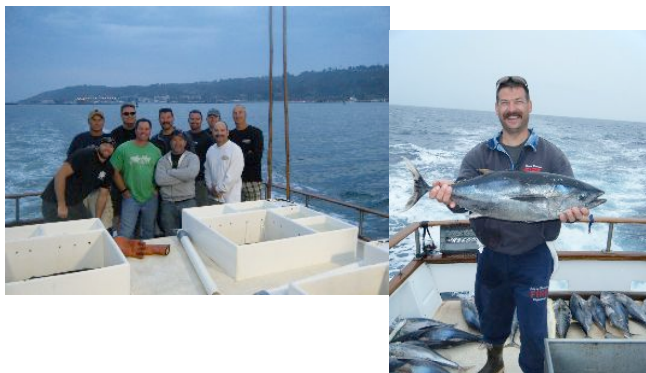
October Birthdays



Dave Campos	9/23
<i>(Sorry we forgot you last month; You are awesome, Chief!)</i>	
Dave Bakas	10/29
Bill Batey	10/9
Bret Bauer	10/9
Shari Call	10/30
Bill DeLaHoya	10/28
Jeff Dredla	10/12
Josh Fudge	10/18
David Greyshock	10/30
Anna Hauldren	10/04
Bryan Hoffman	10/23
Lisa Holloway	10/21
Tom Irwin	10/9
Bob Jerz	10/4
Kristen Johnson	10/23
Gene Lopez	10/18
Jeff Loveland	10/11
Jennifer McDowell	10/10
Terry Miller	10/12
Shawn Plaxco	10/6
James Reynolds	10/7
Gale Schulte	10/1

Fishing Trip

Dave Nash, Kenny Lundgren, Dru Odil, Todd Gooch, Dave Bakas, Jason Tinsman, Chris Stamper, Trey Janeway, Steve Jeremiah, and Bart Kennedy went on a 2-day fishing trip on Aug 20 and 21



Congratulations

Engine Certification: Frank Robles

Promotion to Engineer: Gary Giovannetti

Firefighter of the Year: The Riverside Opportunity Center recognized now retired Engineer Robert Linden as Firefighter of the Year

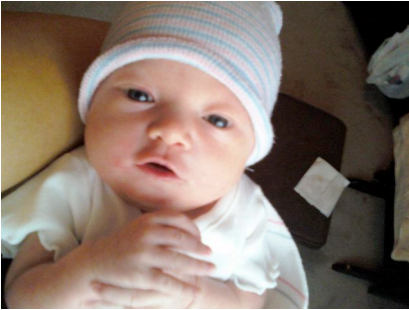
Certificates of Recognition: Greg Bluma for developing and instructing the A-shift Auto Extrication class and Tim Odebralski for work on the CQI Committee

Acting Battalion Chief: On Sept 18, Captain Bob Valdez will rotate into the position of Acting Battalion Chief assigned to Battalion 2 B shift. He will be in this position for the next three months. Deputy Chief Oran Pentz would like to thank Captain Jeff DeLaurie for the excellent job he did while assigned to the Acting BC position these past three months.



Growing Families

Ryan Hicks: Ryan and Cindy Hicks are the proud parents of a baby girl. Katelyn Christina Hicks was born on Aug 14. She weighed 7 lbs and was 18 inches long. This is Ryan and Cindy's first child, so lets all congratulate them and wish them the best in their new roles as proud parents.



Ron Nunan: Ron Nunan and his wife Christie welcomed their second son, Finn Mac Nunan, on Sept 12 at 1215. Finn weighed 7 lbs 13 oz and was 19 ¼" long.



Christina Kelsey: Congratulations to PSD Christine Kelsey and her husband on the birth of their son Logan Michael Kelsey who was born Sept 4 at 0824. He weighed 7 lbs 15 oz and was 20 inches long. Mom and Dad are doing well.

Explorers Win at Musters

Sept 20 was the Route 66 Fire Muster. Explorer Post 101 earned 1st and 3rd place in bucket brigade; 1st and 2nd in hosecart; and 3rd in make-and-break. Sept 27 they won 1st place in buckets, make-and-break, and overall at the Chino Valley Muster.



In Memory...



Retired Fire Engineer Gerald B. Matthews passed away Sept 13. Gerry had worked for our Department from June 1965 to July 1977 before going off on an industrial accident.

Gerry was 67. To the best of our knowledge, he was probably the first political action chair for RCFA and was largely responsible for the many benefits we enjoy working for the City of Riverside. When he retired he became the full time lobbyist for CSFA. I suspect that we enjoy many public safety benefits because of his work. Chief Esparza had the pleasure working with him at the capital where they called him "the bull dog". He worked tirelessly for our benefit garnering support for bills that provided for our safety, workers comp benefits, and many other laws that supported our efforts to protect the citizens in California.

The memorial service was held on Saturday Sept 19 in Hemet. We sent a fire engine to the service.

With Sympathy...

Steve Schlom's father passed away on Sept 28th. Our thoughts are with Steve and his family during this time.

PHOTO ALBUM



L to R: Bret Bauer, Lisa Holloway, Jeff Larson & Don Henry stopped by the state capital building while in Sacramento at the annual Continuing Challenge Haz Mat Conference; Eastside Fire Station now has its own t-shirt design (contact Kristen Johnson or Tim Odebralski for more information); Nikko substituted as goalie for his handler Tim Odebralski; Anna Hauldren adopted Houdini, an 8 week old kitten, found in the field behind the Arlington Fire Station

Remember Our Heroes



Captain Thomas Jay played the bugle at the 5th Annual Remember Our Heroes event at Fairmount Park on Sept 6th. Downtown Fire Station units also attended the event that honors military personnel in the City of Riverside



Arlanza News by John Peurifoy

Rodeo: Engine 7A shift ran a medical aid at the Arlanza Rodeo. There were about 1000 folks who attended the event. Most in attendance were in traditional Spanish clothing. After the patient was transported, the crew took pictures with some of the riders and people who were in attendance. They were even invited to try out their roping skills on a horse but didn't take advantage of that opportunity. (I believe the "how could this have been prevented" deterred them).



Horse Whisperer: Pat Mullen provides excellent customer service to rescue a loose horse. The scared horse was running around the area of Stover and Gaylord. Engine 7 was flagged down to help. Residents in the area were unable to catch him. Pat was able to calm the horse down and take control of him. The horse was tired and hot but after some water, he was taken to a local house and the neighbors attempted to locate the owner.



Fishing: Crews from Station 7 went fishing in the Santa Anna River bottom and caught this Ford Escort on Sept 18. Actually, this vehicle crashed and flipped over the side. The driver walked away and did not even get transported. The bridge was shut down for about 2 hours during rush hour traffic so crews could retrieve the vehicle from the river bottom.



La Sierra & Riverbottom Fires



Email from Chief Earley to all RFD Personnel on 9/23/09:

On 9/22/09 the City of Riverside was challenged with two major brush fires, structure fire, MCI and many other simultaneous incidents. These incidents truly highlighted the outstanding personnel and Department we have. I was asked to attend the City Council meeting last night and give a briefing to the Council. Several of the Council Members commented on the excellent work of our firefighters and their professionalism and dedication. I received a standing ovation on behalf of all the members of the City of Riverside Fire Department. I wish to thank all of our personnel for their hard work and dedication to serving our community and also want to give a special thank you to our often forgotten group our support personnel.

Mud Run/Stair Climb



Mud Run: On Sept 12, the following RFD members participated in the annual Mud Run (10K) in San Bernardino: Rich Bell, Tyler Reynolds, Mitch Wesche, Scott Richmond, Paul Young, Josh Fudge, Matt Stibal, Dave Castaneda and Billy Milligan

Stair Climb: On Sept 25, RFD members Jeremy Roberts, Mitch Wesche, Matt Stibal, and Dave Castaneda participated in the Stair Climb event where they climbed in full gear to the top of the 75' US Bank Building (tallest building west of Chicago) in Los Angeles.

